




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PATENT
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Applicant : Yoshikazu Umezu, et al.
Application No. : 09/308,607
Filed : May 20, 1999
Title : METHOD OF PRODUCTION OF CERAMICS

Grp./Div. : 1615
Examiner : R. Joynes

Docket No. : 34650/DBP/A400

#9/A
AKD
10/23/01

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
October 11, 2001

Commissioner:

In response to the Office action of April 25, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims:

Applicants are cancelling claims 6 to 10, amending claims 1 to 5, and adding new claims 11 to 13. All of pending claims 1 to 5 and 11 to 13 follow:

1. (Amended) A process for producing spherically-shaped ceramics comprising dropping a starting material for ceramics into a low temperature medium, followed by freeze drying and then sintering the same.

A'
B'